



Monthly Business Connection

989-845-3055

Email: info@chesaningchamber.org

Web: www.chesaningchamber.org

February 2019

*Chesaning
Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors*

Greg Bruff,
President
Waddell & Reed

Ron Ebenhoeh
Vice President
Metro Mortgage

Jessie Stewart,
Secretary
Sovis Insurance

Steve Keck,
Treasurer
H&R Block

Lori Austerberry
Chesaning Realty

Jeri Birchmeier
Chesaning Nursing &
Rehabilitation Center

Stephanie Domina
The State Bank

Tom Lavery
CenturyLink

Bobbi McIntyre
Studio 124

Ron Poyer
H&R Block

Nick Stoddard
Stoddard Classic Cars

Christopher Theile
Swartzmiller Lumber

Kate Weber
Executive Director

President's Corner

As we complete the membership renewal season, I'd like to take a moment to say THANK YOU to all of our businesses, organizations and individuals who have continued their support of the chamber with both their membership dues and their time and effort. We look forward to sharing our membership directory in our new marketing brochure that is due to be completed in early March.

Although 2019 has thrown an unusual amount of weather challenges at us recently, I'm feeling confident that spring will be here soon and I look forward to watching Chesaning come alive with great outdoor festivals, fundraisers and family activities. We look forward to helping our members promote their events!

Speaking of events, we know that there are questions in the community regarding the fate of our annual Candlelight Walk event. Our ballot survey of the chamber business members only had a 15% response rate and the voting was mixed about whether to continue Candlewalk, change it into a different type of holiday event or cancel it completely. The biggest challenges are these: we need to find a new location for the Festival of Trees raffle, we have declining volunteer participation, and public feedback of the event indicates that

the festival is not what it once was back when there were many participating shops along the boulevard and downtown. Our board is still tackling the tough evaluation of Candlewalk's future and will make our final decision in the coming month. If you have any suggestions, please contact Bobbi McIntyre, myself or the Chamber office.

On a more positive note, we have a series of Chamber events to enjoy this spring including our Chamber Comedy Night on March 16 (see the back page for details), the Craft n' Crop for our more creative friends on April 13 (page 4) and our Chamber Scholarship Golf Outing scheduled for Sunday, May 19. Summer will be here before we know it and it will be time for our Fireworks in Showboat Park on July 3! I encourage you to join one of our event committees to share your ideas and energy to keep our chamber strong.

Wishing you all the best,

Gregory C. Bruff

Board of Directors President
989-845-7699-work or 989-280-4838-cell



*Greg Bruff,
President*



A visit to Agnew Graphics' new location at 1905 W. M-21 in Owosso gave us a sneak peek at the new Community Services Building monument sign!

Inside this issue:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Member News | 2 |
| March Calendar | |
| Celebrating Member Anniversaries | 3 |
| News From Our Schools | 4 |
| Craft 'n Crop Day | |
| Primerica Insert | 5 |
| Local Events | 7 |
| Chamber Comedy Night | 8 |
| Raffle Winners | |

Member News & Community Highlights

Member Press Releases:

- “The State Bank is proud to announce the promotion of Lisa Stevens as the Company’s newest Assistant Community Office Manager, serving the Birch Run branch location.” Read more [HERE!](#)
- “Financial services firm Edward Jones ranks No. 7 on the 2019 Fortune “100 Best Companies to Work For” list, according to global research and consulting firm Great Place to Work and Fortune magazine. This year marks the firm’s 20th year on the list.” Click [HERE](#) for the full story!
- **United Financial Credit Union** invites you to join them for a “Financial Wholeness Course. During the course you will learn time-tested strategies that help you to make informed financial decisions.” The course is two - 3 hour sessions. March 14 and 21 from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm at United Financial CU: 4685 State St. Saginaw, MI 48603. Read more [ONLINE](#) including information about registering.

Press Releases are shared in our weekly update emails and on our Chamber webpage under the “Our Members” tab!

Welcome New Members!

- **J Hoover Construction**, owned by Jeremy Hoover, specializes in both interior and exterior projects. Learn more about J Hoover Construction [online](#) or by calling 989-284-7523 to request a bid.
- **Mow & Snow LLC** is owned by Billy and Stephanie Wallen and offers lawn maintenance services including residential and commercial snow removal and de-icing, lawn mowing, yard clean-up, fire wood, driveway and site grading, and much more. Find them on [Facebook](#), email them at mownsnowllc@yahoo.com or call them at 989-860-8610 for service!
- **New Wine Full Gospel Church** is under the leadership of Senior Pastor Jose Rodriguez and offers Sunday worship at 10am and Wednesday Bible Study at 7pm, along with a Free Community Dinner on the third Saturday of the month (5-6:30pm) and Grace Food Ministry with food box giveaways on the 4th Thursday of every month. Call the church at 845-7878 or visit their [website](#) for more information!

January
Chamber Statistics:
 We received
109 Phone Calls,
471 Emails &
75 Visitors



March 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| 31 | Weekly Meetings/Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotary Club meets at noon on Tuesdays, Riverfront Grille • Am. Legion Queen of Hearts Raffle is on Tuesdays at 8pm, Pintown • Kiwanis Meets at 6pm on Tuesdays at Riverfront Grille • K of C Eat-In Fish Fry, Fridays 5-7:30pm beginning March 8 | | | | 1 | 2 New Wine Grace Food Ministry Brown Bag Auction and Dinner 5pm |
| 3 Am. Legion Breakfast 7:30-11:30am | 4 | 5 7:30pm Village Council | 6 Chamber Marketing Meeting 8:00am | 7 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am Chesaning Twp Board 7:30pm | 8 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am | 9 Baffling Bill Magician at CMS 4pm Trinity Methodist Free Community Supper 5pm |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Noon Chamber Raffle 6pm DDA Meeting | 14 Chamber Board of Directors Meeting 8am | 15 | 16 New Wine Church Free Community Dinner 5pm Chamber Comedy Night @ Riverfront Grille |
| 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY | 18 | 19 River Rapids Library Guest Speaker: Irene Miller - Holocaust Survivor 6pm 7:30pm Village Council | 20 K of C Hamburg Night 5-7pm 7pm Library Book Club 7pm Sports Boosters | 21 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am | 22 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Noon Chamber Raffle | 28 Grace Food Ministry New Wine Church Food Box Give Away 4:30pm | 29 | 30 |
| Chamber Office Closed - Spring Break | | | | | | |

“May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow, And may trouble avoid you wherever you go.” ~ Irish blessing

Happy 5th Anniversary, A-1 Site Development, Inc!



A-1 Site Development, one of our chamber's newer business members, is celebrating a milestone anniversary this year!

Although A-1 Site Development only boasts 5 years in business, owner Nicholas M Tkaczyk has been doing earthwork and excavating for over 30 years. Previously, Nicholas worked for a private company before going out on his own in 2006. He began purchasing his own heavy equipment at that point and, after the volume of work he was doing increased, he incorporated A-1 Site Development in January of 2014.

Today, the company employs a staff of six but that number grows during their busier seasons. A-1 Site Development, Inc is always looking for new employees and applicants can send resumes to a1sitedevelopment@gmail.com. Some of their positions include heavy equipment operators, pipe layers, and laborers.

Despite being based locally in Chesaning, A-1 Site Development currently has ongoing projects both in Michigan and North Carolina, including the No. 96 Drain project for the Gratiot County Drain Commission and property development for a law firm in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

The Chamber wishes A-1 Site Development all the best for continued success and business growth in the coming years!

~Information & Picture provided by Tricia Spiker, A-1 Site Development

Broad Street Events Celebrates 5 Years of Fun

Broad Street Events is excited to enter into its sixth season in downtown Chesaning! For the past five years, the organization has provided summer fun to the community by way of a weekly farmers market and a monthly outdoor movie night. The nonprofit started with the idea to organize a farmers market. Over the past five years the Market Off Broad has steadily increased the number of vendors and local products offered. At the market you can find a wide range of local produce, honey, maple syrup, baked goods, pierogis, sausages, eggs and handmade craft items. The final market of the season always includes a fun project with Big Rock Elementary classes. The classes compete with each other in decorating contests and have so far decorated pumpkins, scarecrows and wreaths. The market is open on Saturdays

from 9am-1pm July through October, located at the corner of Broad and S. Chapman Streets. The market accepts SNAP, Senior Project FRESH and WIC Project FRESH, as well as credit and debit cards.

Not long after the market opened, President Brett Russell came across a discarded movie screen and a series of outdoor movie nights began. The Movies On Broad has become a wonderful family friendly event in the heart of Chesaning. The screen hangs on the Ace Hardware building and the audience sits in the parking lot on lawn chairs or blankets. The movie begins shortly after sunset, as soon as it is dark enough to see. In addition to the movie viewing there are often special activities or entertainment before the movie starts at dusk.

Special thanks to the following partners:

- Ace Hardware
- Kiwanis Club of Chesaning
- Village of Chesaning

The board members and volunteers would also like to thank the community for their support and patronage over the past five years! If you are interested in becoming a board member or volunteer, please contact Ellen at 517-581-0108 or broadstreetevents48616@gmail.com.



~Article & Pictures provided by Ellen Rodman, Broad Street Events

News From Our Schools

If your business is interested in becoming a Chesaning Career Exploration Partner for the third trimester by offering short-term work experience internships for high school students (beginning March 11), please contact Erica Birkmeier by calling 845-2040 or at ebirkmeier@chesaning.k12.mi.us.

Also, the Chesaning Union High School is seeking evaluators for Senior Integrated Project presentations by students on March 5 & 6. If you are interested in being an evaluator, please complete the form [HERE](#) and mail it to Amy Sholtz at Chesaning High School, 850 N. Fourth Street, Chesaning, MI 48616, or simply send an email indicating the times you are available. You can also contact the school via telephone with your availability. Any questions can be directed to Amy at 845-2040, or to: asholtz@chesaning.k12.mi.us. Your response is requested by February 25.

Looking ahead to the 2019-20 school year, please note the opportunity listed to the right to help special education students with work-based learning opportunities! →



Chesaning High School is looking for work based learning opportunities for 6-7 Special Education students for the 2019-2020 school year. Work based learning provides direct as well as community based instruction in the areas of work skills, communication skills, and social skills. Examples of required tasks could include custodial, janitorial, or food service related duties. Transportation will be provided through Chesaning High School and each work group would be supervised by a Chesaning High School Special Education Instructor. Scheduling is flexible and could vary from from 1 to 2 hours per day from 1 to 5 days a week.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email Carrie Albertson at calbertson@chesaning.k12.mi.us

Craft 'n Crop Is Back This Spring!

For the past several years, the Chamber has hosted a scrapbooking and crafting day for our creative members and their friends. This year's event has been scheduled for April 13 and spaces are already filling up for both crafters and vendors! We will be enjoying the spacious hall at the Chesaning Area Conservation Club and appreciate their help in making this fun day possible!

We are seeking vendors who would like to have their products available during the Craft 'n Crop event. The cost for vendors to participate is simply a door prize donation (minimum \$25 value) and the price of their meals. Vendors can hold their booth/table space for the entire day or half of the day (9am-2:30pm or 3:30pm to 9pm).

Participants will enjoy a full lunch and dinner, along with snacks and a light break-

fast, as well as fun games with chances to win great prizes! The cost to attend this 12 hour event is only \$40 per person and we are happy to accommodate groups so you can sit with your friends!

Be sure to call the Chamber office to pre-reserve your seat or vendor space. Registration forms and online payment options are available on the Chamber website at www.ChesaningChamber.org. We hope you can join us for a relaxing and creative day!

CHESANING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Craft 'n Crop

Bring your glue, scissors, yarn, paper and more for a full day of crafting!

Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Chesaning Area Conservation Club, 18750 W. Baldwin Road, Chesaning

\$40 Per Person Includes:

- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Snacks!
- Trash or Treasure Table (Bring your extra craft supplies to swap)
- Craft Consultants & Vendors
- **NEW! Crafty Champion Contest!** Earn entry tickets all day long with fun crafting challenges to win fantastic prizes!
 - * Bring a new friend (who hasn't attended in 2 years) to earn 10 tickets
 - * Wear a crafting-themed outfit to earn 2 tickets
 - * Bring a crafty coffee mug, glass or water bottle to earn 1 ticket
 - * On-the-spot challenges to earn more tickets will be announced throughout the day!

"Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush." ~ Doug Larson

A MAIN STREET COMPANY FOR MAIN STREET NORTH AMERICA

Primerica helps families get the protection they need at a price they can afford, invest for the future and reduce debt.

ABOUT US

- Largest independent financial services marketing organization in North America
- 40+ year proven track record
- More than 2 million client investment accounts*
- More than 5 million lives insured through our life companies, with an average of \$3.8 million in benefit claims paid every day*
- Listed on the NYSE under the symbol "PRI"

*Numbers reflect the combined totals or daily average, as indicated above, as of, or for the year ended, December 31, 2017, for the following affiliated companies: Life Insurance: National Benefit Life Insurance Company (Home Office: Long Island City, NY) in New York; Primerica Life Insurance Company (Executive Offices: Duluth, GA) in all other U.S. jurisdictions; Primerica Life Insurance Company of Canada (Head Office: Mississauga, ON) in Canada. Investments: in the United States, securities are offered by PFS Investments Inc., 1 Primerica Parkway, Duluth, Georgia 30099-0001; in Canada, mutual funds are offered by PFS Investments Canada Ltd., mutual fund dealer, Head Office: Mississauga, Ontario. Each company is responsible for its own financial obligations.

READY TO GET STARTED?

Working with your Primerica representative, hosting a Financial Wellness Workshop for your employees is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. **Pick a workshop topic:** How Money Works Debt Solutions, Saving for Retirement, Long Term Care ... and more!
 2. **Choose the time and the place.** We come to you!
 3. **Get the word out.** We offer a variety of materials to help you promote the workshop.
- * LTC coverage is only available in the U.S.

That's it! It's that easy! Contact your Primerica representative to get started today!



Tabitha M Sjoberg
Regional Vice President
815 W. Broad St
Chesaning, MI 48616
989-323-2283 Business
tabitha.sjoberg@gmail.com



www.primericaworkshops.com

Primerica representatives market term life insurance underwritten by National Benefit Life Insurance Company, Home Office: Long Island City, NY in New York; State: Primerica Life Insurance Company, Executive Offices: Duluth, GA in all other U.S. jurisdictions; and Primerica Life Insurance Company of Canada, Home Office: Mississauga, Ontario in Canada. In the United States, securities are offered by PFS Investments Inc., 1 Primerica Parkway, Duluth, Georgia 30099-0001. Primerica and PFS Investments Inc. are affiliated companies. In Canada, mutual funds are offered by PFS Investments Canada Ltd., mutual fund dealer, Head Office: Mississauga, Ontario.

©2018 Primerica / 50092 / A 9210 / 5.18 / 42897



COULD YOUR COMPANY BENEFIT
FROM A COMPLIMENTARY

FINANCIAL WELLNESS WORKSHOP?



DID YOU KNOW?

Most American workers (85%) admit to using time during the workday to take care of personal financial issues, and half of Canadian employees feel financial stress impacts their job performance.^{1,2} The facts are that stressed workers cost employers billions of dollars a year in missed workdays and lost productivity.³

A FINANCIAL WELLNESS WORKSHOP:

- Enhances employer/employee relationships
- Helps with employee retention and loyalty
- Develops a bridge between management and employees

WHAT WE OFFER

Primerica believes in financial education for everyone. We believe that there are no "secrets" to financial security and that financial education isn't just for the wealthy. Primerica's goal is to educate hard-working, Main Street families - just like your employees - on simple concepts that can change their financial future forever.

OUR FINANCIAL WELLNESS WORKSHOPS HAVE THREE COMPONENTS:

- 1 We can provide financial education workshops on a variety of topics.
- 2 We offer each employee the opportunity to have a complimentary, customized financial game plan (Financial Needs Analysis) created either on-site, or in the comfort of their own home.
- 3 We can assign each employee their own financial representative to answer any questions he or she might have.⁴

1workplaceoptions.com, "Financial Stress Impacts Job Performance for More Than One Third of Working Americans," July 25, 2017 2 hrreport.com, "Workers Experiencing High Levels of Financial Stress: Survey," November 9, 2017 3 benefitspro.com, "Workplace Stress Costing Employers \$500 Billion Annually," October 20, 2017 4 Primerica representatives are independent contractors, and are not employees of Primerica companies, or its parent company Primerica, Inc. Representatives are not financial planners or tax advisors. Any related questions should be directed to an appropriately licensed professional.

HOW OUR WORKSHOPS BENEFIT YOUR COMPANY

Our workshops leverage Primerica's expertise in creating a free, in-house education program for your employees.

Our structured platform supports your existing benefits programs, and does not compete with them.

Typically, financial wellness programs and workshops are a top-tier benefit that previously were only offered by some Fortune 500 companies to their employees. We've made this benefit accessible to small- and mid-sized companies.

Our workshops can work to reduce or alleviate many of the financial questions employees bring to the human resources department by providing a forum for employees to ask questions.

BEST OF ALL, THIS WORKSHOP IS FREE TO BOTH YOU AND YOUR EMPLOYEES!

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

"The financial wellness workshops put on by Primerica for our employees were a big success. We received a great deal of positive feedback about the usefulness of the information presented and the employees were grateful for the learning experience."

Robert J. Cahoon, CPA
CFO, Practice Resources, LLC

"The workshops were conducted by highly trained and professional educators. I was able to obtain the necessary knowledge to become financially independent through careful planning and money management. I would highly recommend a Primerica Workshop."

The Honorable Walter Loh
Town Justice

"The Primerica Workshop was conveyed in an easy-to-understand format. Our participants were educated on how to improve their finances during this harsh economic climate we endure. If your goal is to provide a complimentary educational workshop for the members of your organization, I highly recommend a Primerica Workshop."

Layonne Erskine, Ph.D.
Program Director, Economic Opportunity Commission

"The financial workshop presented by Primerica had much farther reaching effects than I had anticipated. The feedback that I received from co-workers is that it helped to bring real clarity to both the short- and long-term financial pictures, which can often be confusing and intimidating."

Mark Koester
President & CEO, Koester Associates, Inc.

Tickets \$5 **Baffling Bill** **Family Fun**
The Magician

March 9, 2019 4:00 p.m.
 Middle School Auditorium
 Doors Open @ 3:15 p.m.



Chesaning area
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
 Helping the community to grow in knowledge.

Proceeds go to
 River Rapids Library
 Summer Reading
 Program

River Rapids District Library
 989-845-3211
 www.riverrapidslibrary.org
 facebook.com/riverrapidslibrary

Brown Bag Auction Dinner


A fundraiser for Grace Food Ministry
 New Wine Full Gospel Church, 734 Brady Street, Chesaning
5-7PM on Saturday, March 2
 Bring \$5 each and an item to auction off in a brown bag.
 Join us for a great time of fun and fellowship!

2019 SHIAWASSEE HOME GARDEN & BUSINESS EXPO

2019 Theme:


March 9 & 10, 2019
Location:
 Owosso High School, 765 E. North St., Owosso

Show Hours:
 Saturday, March 9th - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday, March 10th - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



IRENE MILLER Holocaust Survivor


River Rapids
 District Library
 March 19th, 2019
 6:00 p.m.

Irene Miller, a Holocaust survivor, will take you on a survival journey little written and known about. You will sleep in the winter under an open sky on the no man's land; you will freeze in a Siberian labor camp where the bears come to your door front. In Uzbekistan, you will live on boiled grass or broiled onions, and shiver with malaria. You will spend years in orphanages. When this is over you will wonder how a child with this background grows up to become a positive, creative, accomplished woman with a joy of living and love to share

By Sharing her Story Irene hopes to:

- Give a face to the dark chapter of human history
- Promote tolerance and diversity
- Inspire positive action, including anti-bullying.
- Empower people to overcome obstacles in life, by example.

River Rapids District Library
 227 E. Broad St., Chesaning, MI 48616
 989-845-3211
 www.riverrapidslibrary.org



Director of Marketing & Training
 United Financial Credit Union
 989-777-3620 ex. 4041
jgwizdala@unitedfinancialcu.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**UNITED FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION OFFERS FREE SEMINAR:
 Better Your Business Lunch and Learn**

[Saginaw, MI]

Come one, come all! Whether your business is big or small! As a business owner there are certain risks that you inherit, but also many opportunities available that aren't accessible to the everyday person. Do you know what these products are? If you have these products, are you aware of the liabilities accompanied with them?

During this lunch and learn we will talk about:

- Financial strategies to help your business save on taxes and save for retirement
- Affordable Products that make your business more appealing for future employees and lower your turnover rate for current employees
- Solutions to cut the cost of your business insurance
- Coverage options that can fill in the gaps in your policies or cover risks that you may not even know exist

Lunch will be provided to all attendees.
 You are invited to join us to learn and make yourself a better business owner, at no cost and no obligation, choose from two different dates:

United Financial Credit Union welcomes your Business to join them on February 21 OR February 26 from Noon to 1:00pm. The workshop will be held at 4685 State St. Saginaw, MI 48603

Limited Space! Please contact the Credit Union at 989-777-3620 or marketing@unitedfinancialcu.org to reserve your spot!

United Financial Credit Union was founded in 1964 to serve a small group of tool and die workers in the Bridgeport area. United Financial C.U. currently has six locations located in Bridgeport, Saginaw Township, Chesaning, Freeland and Auburn and serves over 24,000 members. Contact us at www.unitedfinancialcu.org or 989-777-3620.

Raffle Winners:

February 13

Cori Amman

Drawn by

**Deputy Craig Lawson
and Ric Rehmann**

At

**Ed Rehmann & Sons
Clothing & Shoes**

Next Drawing:

February 27!

Chamber Comedy Night is Back!

Stand up COMEDY

**TICKET RESERVATION
CHESANING CHAMBER
989-845-3055**

MICHAEL GEETER

ANTONIO AGUILAR

BRET HAYDEN

SA.3.16.19

RIVERFRONT GRILLE

START 8:30 | DOORS OPEN 8:00

TICKETS: \$20

REAL BREAKING GOOD GRILLE

Come enjoy a good laugh with friends and community members on Saturday, March 16 at our 2nd Annual Chamber Comedy Night! Matt Pierce and the staff of Riverfront Grille serve up the fun with a great line-up of comedians who are sure to tickle your funny bone. Your chamber Comedy Night Committee encourage you to wear green at this St. Patrick's Day-themed evening!

Tickets are available now at the Chamber office for \$20 each or save a table of 8 for \$150! Last year's event was well-attended... don't miss out, get your tickets soon! You can also purchase your tickets online by clicking on the Comedy Night image on the Chamber's home page or by following this link: <http://www.chesaning-chamber.org/comedy-night.html>

CHESANING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
218 N. FRONT STREET ~ SUITE B
CHESANING, MI 48616
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED